SASKATOON metro®

NEWS WORTH SHARING.

Khadr unfairly labelled: Ombudsman

Former Guantanamo detainee Omar Khadr poses a minimal threat and should be classified as such, the federal prisons ombudsman argues PAGE 4

GUNNING FOR THE DARK SIDE

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Populations up, away from the pack

Saskatoon's skyline can be seen from the top of the Broadway Condominiums on Wednesday afternoon. It's a skyline likely to be transformed in the coming years as a recent report from Statistics Canada places Saskatoon as the second-fastest growing city in the country. Inset: Hustle and bustle at Saskatoon Public Transit's downtown bus mall at the intersection of 23rd Street East and 3rd Avenue North. MORGAN MODJESKI/METRO

'People vote by their feet.' Saskatoon, Regina metro areas among fastest-growing in the country

MARCO VIGLIOTTI
Metro in Regina

The Saskatoon and Regina metropolitan areas continue to grow at a faster pace than the national average, according to the latest population figures from Statistics Canada.

Saskatoon posted the second-highest growth rate in the country at 3.9 per cent between July 2012 and July 2013, while Regina was just behind that in fourth place nationally at 3.1 per cent.

According to estimates from the national statistics agency, the population of Saskatoon's metro area is 292,597, while Regina is at 232,090.

"People vote by their feet," Robin Wiebe, senior economist with the Conference Board of Canada, said of both cities' strong growth.

"Both of these cities (had previously) experienced lengthy periods of out-migration ... but things have dramatically turned around."

On Wednesday the Conference Board released an economic outlook report on metropolitan areas across the country, which projected that Regina and Saskatoon will continue with solid population gains in the coming years.

The number of migrants to both cities, however, is expected to slow slightly while remaining at historically strong rates, Wiebe said.

Overall, the board predicts that both cities will long enjoy the benefits of their local and provincial economies.

The growth appears to be transforming the two Saskatchewan cities into major targets for new arrivals. Statistics Canada numbers suggest that newcomers to the country are increasingly opting for the fertile plains of Saskatchewan.

Saskatoon boasts the largest net international in-migration rate of any metro area in Canada at 2.1 per cent.

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He chooses not to run

No Yogi in 2016 provincial election

Former Saskatchewan corrections minister and veteran MLA Yogi Huyghebaert says it's time to call it a career.

The 69-year-old says he will not run in the next provincial election expected in April 2016.

Huyghebaert was elected in a byelection in Wood River in 2000 and is serving his fourth term.

He served as the minister of corrections, public safety and policing from May 2009 to May 2012.

Before going into politics, Huyghebaert was a pilot with the Royal Canadian Air Force, serving in Germany and later flying with the famous Snowbirds.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Veteran MLA Yogi Huyghebaert
MARCO VIGLIOTTI/METRO

Serious injuries

Cops investigating beating of a 15-year-old boy

The Saskatoon Police Service is currently investigating a schoolyard beating that sent a 15-year-old boy to hospital with serious injuries.

Police were called to a school in the 600 block of Wiggins Avenue South at roughly 3 p.m. on Feb. 25, after a male outside of the school had reportedly beaten the 15-year-old.

MD Ambulance took the boy to hospital with what police are calling serious injuries.

At this time, police are speaking with witnesses in an attempt to identify the suspect or suspects.

Police say further information will be provided as it becomes available. METRO

Sask. legislature to focus on budget and seniors care

Monday debate.
Premier says top issue — grain backlog — may influence spring sitting

Premier Brad Wall says the budget will form the basis of debate during the spring sitting of the Saskatchewan legislature.

Wall says there will be initiatives on long-term and seniors care, as well as details on a fund for future development using non-renewable resource revenues.

The spring sitting starts Monday and the budget is set to be tabled March 19.

"It's going to be a balanced budget. It's going to represent the fact that the government's made a lot of difficult choices because that balanced budget … is really at the basis of our growth agenda," Wall said Wednesday at the legislature.

The top issue in the province right now, he suggested, is a grain backlog, and that may influence the spring sitting too.

Transportation delays have left a record crop sitting in bins across the Prairies and grain-handling companies have told the province that it may be well into 2015 before the backlog is cleared.

Saskatchewan wants the federal government to oversee negotiations on performance agreements between grain and rail companies.

The spring sitting is also when legislation that was introduced in the fall is passed.

Thirty-four bills were introduced last fall, including proposed traffic safety laws with tougher penalties for impaired driving and changes to the essential services labour law. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"It's going to be a balanced budget. It's going to represent the fact that the government's made a lot of difficult choices because that balanced budget … is really at the basis of our growth agenda."
Premier Brad Wall

Premier Brad Wall addresses the media at the Saskatchewan Legislature Wednesday morning. MARCO VILGLIOTTI/METRO

Opposition

'That's ridiculous'

Opposition NDP Leader Cam Broten said his party will push for improvements in schools, hospitals and seniors care facilities in the spring sitting.

The NDP focused on those issues in the last sitting, but Broten said they're what people are talking about.

"We aren't religiously glued to those themes. We talk about many items, but this is what has been expressed to me over the past months as we've travelled (the province)," he said.

"When we hear news of the premier looking at raising education property taxes — not to put those resources into the classroom but to pay for bridges and overpasses — every parent I've spoken to, municipal leaders that I've spoken to, teachers that I've spoken to, think that's ridiculous."

Closing arguments made in trial over shot dog

Bentley, a one-year-old St. Bernard
CONTRIBUTED

The defence says a man facing gun-related charges in the shooting death of a neighbour's pet dog had the right to protect his farm animals from the 11-month-old St. Bernard.

But the Crown says Eugene Krawchuk put the owner of the dog, a 16-year-old girl, in danger when he raised his gun and fired as she pleaded for him not to kill her pet.

Closing arguments were made Wednesday in the trial of Krawchuk, who is charged with unlawfully killing the dog and careless use of a firearm, among other charges.

Krawchuk, 59, says the dog named Bentley had crossed over onto his property last spring and was chasing and harassing his animals.

The defence argues teenager Lianne Price didn't have a leash with her when she tried to retrieve Bentley, who wasn't responding to her commands.

The Crown says Krawchuk knew from the moment he heard commotion outside about a dog on his land that he planned on killing the dog.

Krawchuk has admitted to loading the rifle before knowing what the dog was doing, and the trial has heard there was bad blood between the families.

While the defence argues Krawchuk only shot once Bentley was clear from anyone else in the pasture, the Crown contends the farmer was tracking the dog with his rifle, meaning the weapon was momentarily aimed at the teenager as the dog ran in front of her.

The judge has reserved his decision on the case until March 20.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/CKOM

Ukraine's protest leaders pick top lawmaker for PM

Coffers to fill. The new leader will be walking into a country rife with financial problems

Leaders of Ukraine's protest movement on Wednesday proposed a top legislator as the country's next prime minister, while Russian President Vladimir Putin ordered major military exercises just across the border in a show of force and apparent displeasure over the country's new direction.

The new government, which is expected to be formally approved by parliament Thursday, will face the hugely complicated task of restoring stability in a country that is deeply divided politically and on the verge of financial collapse. The country's pro-Russian president, Viktor Yanukovych, fled the capital over the weekend.

At Kyiv's Independence Square, the heart of the protest movement against Yanukovych, the interim leaders who seized control after he fled proposed Arseniy Yatsenyuk as the country's new prime minister.

Yatsenyuk, 39, is a millionaire former banker who served as economy minister, foreign minister and parliamentary speaker before Yanukovych took office in 2010. Widely viewed as a technocratic reformer, he appears to enjoy the support of the U.S.

If confirmed, one of the first jobs for Yatsenyuk and other members of his new Cabinet will be seeking outside financial help from the European Union and the International Monetary Fund. Economists say Ukraine is close to financial collapse, with its currency under pressure and its treasury almost empty. The acting finance minister has said Ukraine will need $35 billion in bailout loans to get through the next two years.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Palestinians pray over recovered body

Palestinians pray during the funeral of Sami Bsharat, a Palestinian militant who was killed in operation by the Israeli army in 2003, in Tamoun village near Jenin city in the West Bank on Wednesday. Recently Israel has been returning the bodies of dead Palestinian militants to their families for burial.

NASSER ISHTAYEH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Man guilty of slaying soldier sentenced to life in prison

An al-Qaida-inspired extremist was sentenced to life without parole Wednesday for hacking a British soldier to death on a London street in front of horrified passersby.

Images of Michael Adebolajo, 29, holding a butcher knife and cleaver with bloodied hands in the moments after the May 22 killing of Lee Rigby shocked people around the world and sparked fears of Islamist terrorism in Britain.

The self-described "soldier of Allah" was sentenced at Central Criminal Court along with his accomplice, 22-year-old Michael Adebowale, who received a minimum 45-year sentence.

The day ended in drama when both men were pinned to the ground and led out of the courtroom after scuffling with guards and shouting "Allah Akbar" — "God is great" — at the judge moments before their sentences were read out.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Michael Adebolajo
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Michael Adebowale
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Syria. Army troops kill dozens of rebels in deadly attack near Damascus

Syrian army troops on Wednesday killed 175 rebels, many of them al-Qaida-linked fighters, in an ambush described as one of the deadliest attacks by government forces against fighters near Damascus, according to state media.

An opposition group said the dawn ambush — part of a government effort to secure the capital — was carried out by the Lebanese Hezbollah group, which has been instrumental in helping President Bashar Assad's regime push back rebels entrenched in the suburbs of the capital city.

Syrian state news agency SANA quoted a field commander in the eastern Ghouta area as saying most of the rebels killed in the assault belonged to the al-Qaida-linked Nusra Front rebel group. The report said several of those killed were foreign fighters who came to Syria from Saudi Arabia, Chechnya and Qatar.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Bieber exchanges swagger for stagger in latest video

In this Jan. 23 video frame grab released by the Miami Beach Police Department, singer Justin Bieber is shown walking unsteadily during a sobriety test at a police station in Miami Beach, Fla. The Miami-Dade county prosecutors released about 10 hours of video Wednesday. MIAMI BEACH POLICE DEPT./THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Omar Khadr a minimal threat, says ombudsman

Classification. Prison authorities urged to take into account evidence that Canadian former Guantanamo detainee has no more terrorist ties

Canadian correctional authorities have unfairly classified former Guantanamo detainee Omar Khadr even though they lowered his risk rating from maximum to medium security, the federal prisons ombudsman complains.

In a letter obtained by The Canadian Press, the Office of the Correctional Investigator urges prison authorities to take into account evidence that Khadr poses minimal threat and should be classified as such.

"(Correctional Service of Canada) officials also note that there is no evidence Mr. Khadr has maintained an association with any terrorist organization," the letter to CSC's senior deputy commissioner states.

The letter this month by Ivan Zinger, executive director of the independent Office of the Correctional Investigator, is the office's third such complaint since Khadr returned to Canada in 2012 to serve out the rest of an eight-year sentence for war crimes.

Corrections recently reclassified Khadr, 27, and transferred him from the maximum-security Edmonton Institution to the medium-security Bowden Institution in Innisfail, Alta.

But the ombudsman argues that doesn't go far enough, given that Khadr pleaded guilty in October 2010 to crimes he committed in Afghanistan as a 15-year-old. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Controversial anti-gay bill vetoed

Arizona Gov. Jan Brewer has vetoed a bill that set off a national debate over gay rights, religion and discrimination.

She announced the veto Wednesday after holding private meetings with opponents and proponents.

The bill backed by Republicans in the state Legislature was designed to give added protection from lawsuits to people who assert their religious beliefs in refusing service to gays.

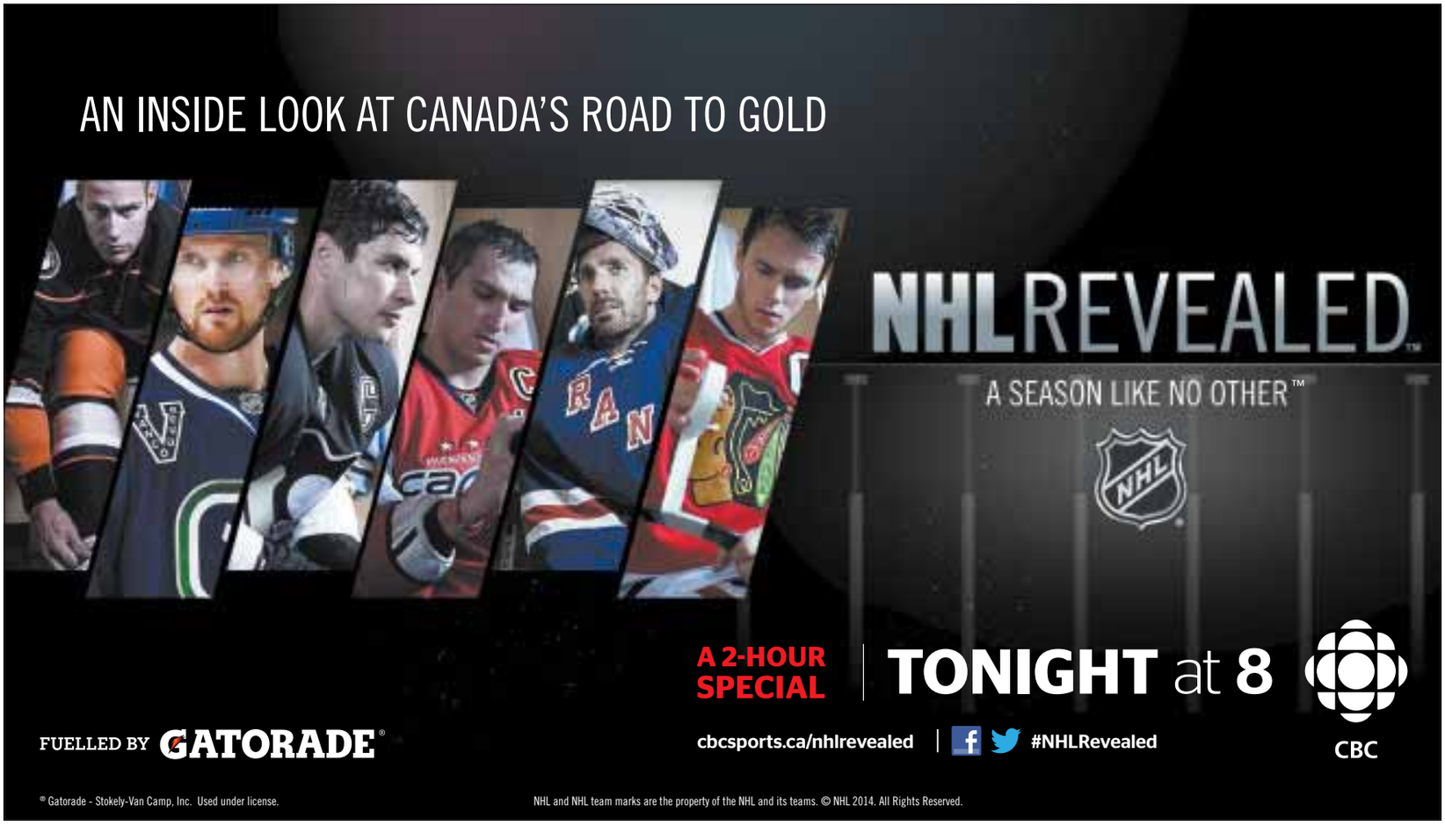
Opponents called it an open attack on gays that invited discrimination.

The bill thrust Arizona into the national spotlight last week after both chambers of the Legislature approved it.

The state faced blistering criticism from major corporations and political leaders from both major parties.

The bill allowed any business, church or person to cite the law as a defence in any action brought by the government or individual claiming discrimination. Supporters call the bill a slight tweak to the state's existing religious freedom law. Arizona does not extend civil-rights protections to people based on sexual orientation.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS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Facelift for Renaissance frescoes

Rome. The World Monuments Fund Europe will allocate some $1.2 million for the restoration of 16th century artwork

Some of the most splendid frescoes in one of Rome's most stunning Renaissance palazzi are getting a much needed facelift.

The Carracci Gallery, a salon whose ceiling was frescoed with sensual nudes and playful cherubs to celebrate the wedding of a pope's niece, will be closed to tourists in the Farnese Palace until late spring 2015.

The palace is home to the French Embassy, which said Wednesday patronage of the World Monuments Fund Europe will help cover the €800,000 ($1.2 million) restoration of the 400-year-old frescoes.

Besides cleaning the paintings, restoration beginning mid-March involves repairing cracks and water infiltration damage.

With France facing European Union pressure to control public finances, Deputy Ambassador Erkki Maillard promised the restoration will be at zero cost to French taxpayers.

The palazzo's facade features details by Michelangelo. To admire the embassy's splendid interior tourists must make reservations for small weekly tours.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"So many tourists knock on our door and say, 'Can we come in and look?' "

Deputy Ambassador of France in Rome, Erkki Maillard

Cracks mark the section of the frescoed ceilings depicting queen Cassiopeia and king Cepheus of Ethiopia in the Carracci Gallery of the Farnese Palace in Rome.
DOMENICO STINELLIS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

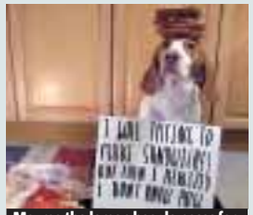
Give your dog a break?

Behaviourists say dogs lack shame

The next time you start shaking your finger and shouting "Shame on you!" because your dog chewed up your favourite fuzzy slippers, just remember that no matter how guilty your dog looks, it doesn't know what your rant is about.

Behaviourists insist dogs lack shame. The guilty look — head cowered, ears back, eyes droopy — is a reaction to the tantrum you are throwing now over the damage they did hours earlier. Scientific findings haven't put a dent in the popularity of online dog shaming sites like dogshaming.com and shameyourpet.com. In posted photos, dogs wear humorous written "confessions" and often are surrounded by the remnants of their misdeeds.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Maymo the lemon beagle poses for a shame illustration.
JEREMY LAKASZCYCK/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Chile. Toxins from algae likely poisoned whales millions of years ago

In this August 2010 file photo, a prehistoric whale fossil lies in the Atacama desert near Copiapo, Chile. MUSEO PALEONTOLOGICO DE CALDERA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Scientists investigating a graveyard of marine mammal fossils near Chile's northern coast say toxins generated by algae blooms most likely poisoned the animals millions of years ago.

The study by a team of Chilean and Smithsonian Institution scientists was published Wednesday in the journal Proceedings of the Royal Society B.

The experts travelled to Chile's Atacama region in 2011 to unearth one of the world's best-preserved graveyards of prehistoric whales.

Other unusual creatures found at the "Whale Hill" site include an extinct aquatic sloth and a walrus-like toothed whale.

Scientists say the "orientation and condition" of the skeletons show that the animals "died at sea, prior to burial on a tidal flat."

The remains were first found by highway construction workers in 2010.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Pursuit. Confused Japanese tourists trigger police chase; ends well

The first night in the United States for a family of Japanese tourists ended with the parents being pulled from their rental car at gunpoint with their young son watching after their confusion about American traffic laws set off a high-speed pursuit in southern Utah.

The pursuit began at 1 a.m. Saturday on Interstate 15 near the Utah-Arizona border when the couple's car was spotted going just 37 mph and swerving between lanes, said Lt. Brad Horne, Utah Highway Patrol's DUI unit commander.

More than a dozen patrolmen were working the area in a special DUI operation, and Horne said he figured the car was being driven by a drunken driver. Horne turned on his lights and siren to pull the car over.

Instead of pulling over, the driver sped up to 75 mph and began driving erratically, he said. Her speeds fluctuated between 40 and 75 mph as she weaved across lanes and into the shoulder.

Soon, there were three patrol cars in pursuit with other officers closing highway offramps and setting tire spikes miles ahead, Horne said.

"It was literally red and blue lights in every direction," Horne said. The couple's car skidded to a stop north of where the pursuit began after tires deflated on spikes. Cops soon realized they were only confused tourists. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

From pursuit to help

Realizing they were dealing with language and cultural barriers, and not drunken fugitives, officers changed their strategy.

- They located a cop who spoke Japanese to help in a variety of ways. No charges were expected.

Drones train budding journalists in Vancouver

Ethan Baron teaches j-students Andrea Anthony and Jenny Peng. METRO

Langara College. Students in B.C. testing flying robots as support for news gathering

Up in the sky, look! It's a bird, it's a plane, it's Superman! …Wait, no, it's an air drone that could be the future of news gathering.

Langara College's journalism instructor Ethan Baron is pushing his students ahead of the game, teaching them to use a drone equipped with an HD-camera.

It's the kind of device that could boost the concrete facts and information journalists yearn for, and it has all sorts of practical applications, said Baron in Vancouver Wednesday. "You can have a fire, or a demonstration, or a riot, and that would allow you to see the scale of the event you're covering," he said. "Of course you would have reporters, photojournalists and video journalists on the ground covering whatever action is taking place, then you'd have an overview which is almost impossible to get at most news outlets these days because most can't afford what it takes to get that perspective."

"Think about something like the Vancouver riots when it was really dangerous for reporters and photographers to be out there," said Amy Jones. SAM SMITH/ FOR METRO IN VANCOUVER

Phantom 2 Vision

"If you have one of these, then they can capture so much more footage."

Said Amy Jones, a Langara College journalism student

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metro

Uganda. No discrimination allowed against gays receiving health care: Minister claims

The medical workers who knew he was gay ignored him, attending to those who arrived after him as they openly gossiped about his homosexuality.

Pepe Julian Onziema, a prominent gay activist in Uganda, said Wednesday he recently was forced to confront some nurses at a private clinic after they neglected to serve him in apparent hostility toward his sexual orientation.

Now that Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni has signed a new law imposing harsh sentences for gay sex, life is expected to become even more difficult for the country's homosexuals, including getting health care. The Ugandan government has issued assurances that health workers will not discriminate against homosexuals, but some gays say they are not confident about that.

Health minister Ruhakana Rugunda said on Wednesday that gay people will not be discriminated against by medical workers despite the strengthening of penalties for gay sex. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Uganda's health minister Ruhakana Rugunda on Tuesday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Vatican

Benedict says his resignation was valid

Retired pope Benedict has denied speculation that he was pressured to leave office. Benedict wrote to the La Stampa newspaper amid a new round of speculation ahead of Friday's first anniversary of the resignation.

Italian journalist Antonio Socci suggested in the daily Libero that the resignation may have been invalid, claiming Benedict was pressured by some cardinals. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

King City, California

Cops accused

One-third of a central California town's police force was taken off duty after several officers were arrested in a scheme to take for themselves the impounded cars of residents, authorities said. Vehicles were impounded and when the owners couldn't pay, were sold or given away for free to cops. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

HOW TO SCORE A DATE

HE SAYS

John Mazerolle
metronews.ca

There was a time when online dating was an embarrassing ordeal, but now it's so commonplace that you'd be an idiot not to have an online profile.

Sure, you might have a loving spouse and a beautiful child, but you haven't truly lived until you've experienced the thrill of a suitor who eyes your 1,500-word profile, feels a moment of inspiration and writes, "Hey."

I spent so many years on dating sites that it might be the Stockholm Syndrome talking, but I really came to enjoy the myriad of ways people misspelled even the simplest English words. "Beautyfull girl with nothing too loose lokking for someone spatial!"

With enough hours online to merit a Malcolm Gladwell reference, a friend of mine recently asked me to offer advice about her profile. I was honoured. In reply, I've written this can't-miss list of online dating tips that will have her — and your — inbox filled with so many yo's and sup's that the NSA won't have the resources to keep up.

Love Bytes: A Guide To 'Electronic Dating'

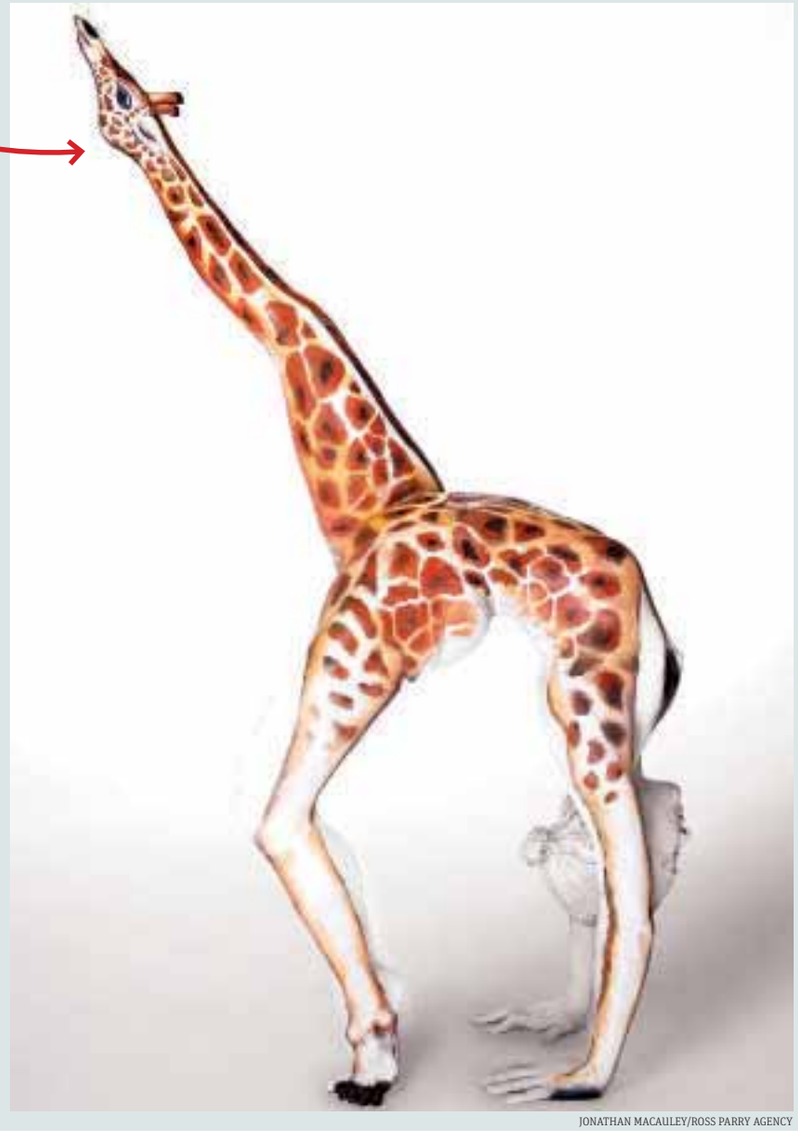
- Your profile name, or handle, should include your full name and address to speed things along.
- Next comes the tagline. Reel in potential suitors with so-called "clickbait" headlines, like "You Won't Believe What Happened To The Last Guy I Dated."
- Never lie, unless you're older or heavier than you want to say you are, in which case go to town.
- Ask a compelling question to prompt more meaningful messages. "If God loves us why must people suffer?" and "Are gravitons fundamental in string theory?" are both great conversation starters.
- Be specific. Wrong: I'm quirky and fun. Right: I am the mayor of Toronto.
- Be sure to list all the things you DON'T want, especially freaks, flakes and game-players, in angry detail. Ranting about previous partners with absolutely no prompting lets people know you mean business. It's no different than when you apply for a new job and your cover letter says, "I'm a good worker, so you'd better not be a lame company or I walk."
- Be sure to pepper the profile with LOLs. Besides their inherent aura of intelligence and charm, the mental image of you laughing at each sentence you write as you sit alone with your laptop is irresistible.
- Taking a selfie in your bathroom mirror shows off your body and your bathroom, which is an efficient way to convey two important pieces of information.
- Big group shots with friends are great, because it shows there is a Plan B, C and D.

And that's my advice. I hope you found it helpful. One last word if you're an older person who is still afraid of technology: Learn to embrace computers and smartphones for your dating needs. Otherwise, you'll be dating yourself.

ZOOM

Artist bends body into an animal

At first glance it looks like a giraffe, but a closer inspection reveals the body of a gymnast contorting herself into the shape of the exotic animal. Beth Sykes, 20, from Featherstone, Yorkshire, in north England, says it was a "spur of the moment" decision to transform her body into that of the long-necked creature. METRO



JONATHAN MACAULEY/ROSS PARRY AGENCY

The gymnast

"We just thought one day that it would be cool to paint me as a giraffe. Then finally we had some time and decided to do it. It took six hours of painting but it was worth it."

Contortionist Beth Sykes
Sykes teamed up with her friend and body art painter Emma Fay to produce her giraffe-like look.

All paint, apart from the ears

Fay the artist painted the head of the giraffe on one of Sykes' feet, and hooves on the other foot and one hand.

"The only bit that wasn't my body was the giraffe's ears — we made them out of a foam yoga mat," added Sykes.

METRO

Clickbait

DYLAN ROBERTSON
Metro Online

Worried about how loud sounds affect your health? Perhaps you're curious how noisy your neighbours really are. Your smartphone can be used as a decibel meter thanks to these free apps.

CONTRIBUTED

Decibel 10th:
This app includes a graph similar to a heart-rate monitor. It also tells you what your current sound environment is comparable to, like a hushed conversation or a plane taking off. A similar Android app is Sound Meter.

Decibels:
A camera comes with this app, allowing you to capture a photo along with the volume level at the time.

Decibel Ultra:
The two meters in this app measure both ambient sound and incoming noises. A number of sophisticated features allow you to calibrate the app's precision.

Twitter

@metropicks asked: Zuckerberg wants to give the whole world free Internet access hoping they will invest. Is it a good idea?

@auditorydamage: I'm sure this totally won't end up concentrating even more power in FB, which totally won't be abused at all.

@Canucklehead_ca: Good idea? No. GREATEST IDEA! If you're unable to look at cat pictures & argue with strangers, well ... that ain't living.

@ctmwyn: reducing the technology barrier can't be bad, unless users are forced to sell their personal information before given access.

@cableknitdragon: No because the last thing the internet needs is more facebook.

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Send us your comments: saskatoonletters@metronews.ca

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$7M. A penny forgotten is a penny made for the feds

When it comes to balancing the country's books, it's the equivalent of finding loose change under a couch cushion.

But each penny surely counts for a Conservative government desperate to press every bit of cash into paying down the deficit.

Federal coffers got a $7-million top-up over the last eight years, all without a single tax being raised or any spending being cut.

So what's behind this modest windfall? Long-forgotten bank accounts. If a bank balance goes untouched for 10 years and no one can find the account owner, the money is transferred to the Bank of Canada. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Penny pinching: Feds get big boost from forgotten bank accounts. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Big movement. Building home sweet (tiny) homes

While tiny houses have been attractive for those wanting to downsize or simplify their lives for financial or environmental reasons, there's another population benefiting from the small-dwelling movement: the homeless.

There's a growing effort across the nation from advocates and religious groups to build these compact buildings because they are cheaper than a traditional large-scale shelter, help the recipients socially because they are built in communal settings and are environmentally friendly due to their size. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Betty Ybarra stands outside a tiny house she and her boyfriend live in, in Madison, Wis. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Market Minute

DOLLAR 89.86¢ (-0.34¢)

TSX 14,188.58 (-0.40)

OIL $102.59 US (+$0.76)

GOLD $1,328 US (-$14.70)

Natural gas: $4.53 US (-$0.13)
Dow Jones: 16,198.41 (+ 18.75)

Expected more?

Target Canada loses almost $1B since March open

Canada's lukewarm reception last year to Target's first expansion outside the U.S. contributed to a nearly $1 billion loss for the discount retailer. Target Corp. reported Wednesday its Canadian segment had a $329 million US loss before interest and tax items in the fourth quarter ended Feb. 1. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Heads bowed, hands out: A devastated Ukraine seeks bailout

A woman walks past a local bank set on fire in Kyiv's Independence Square, the epicentre of the country's current unrest in Ukraine, Tuesday. Ukraine needs money, and fast — in weeks, not months. But bailing out the country of 46 million people will not be as easy as simply writing a big cheque. For one, Ukraine has already burned the main international financial rescuer, the International Monetary Fund, by failing to keep to the terms of earlier bailouts from 2008 and 2010. Now it needs help again, and its economic and financial problems are worse than before. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Scary tales from Alberta's oilsands

Keystone. U.S. senators trot out anecdotal stories in bid to get Obama to reject contentious pipeline

Horror stories about the Alberta oilsands' impact on human health are being shared in Washington, D.C.

A pair of anti-Keystone XL senators invited witnesses Wednesday to provide anecdotes about the effect on people near sites where the oil is extracted, transported and refined.

They hope these human-interest stories might influence the Obama administration as it prepares its final decision on the Keystone XL pipeline.

One of the speakers at the event was John O'Connor, an Alberta doctor.

He first went public in 2006 with concerns about what he considered to be elevated cancer rates around Fort Chipewyan, Alta.

Many of the 1,200 residents believe their proximity to oilsands development and major forestry mills in Fort McMurray have led to contamination of water and wildlife and a higher rate of cancer and other illnesses.

The event organizer said she would send a letter to her longtime colleague in the Senate Democratic caucus, current Secretary of State John Kerry, asking him to consider human health as he prepares a recommendation to U.S. President Barack Obama.

"I have shown you, or at least I have told you, how health miseries follow the tar sands," said Barbara Boxer, the chair of the Senate environment committee, at a news conference.

Boxer said the health aspect has been overlooked in the discussion and was disappointingly absent in the State Department's recent environmental report, which predicted no significant effect on carbon pollution whether or not the pipeline is built. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Anti-Keystone XL senator

"Health miseries follow tar sands from extraction, to transport, to refining, to waste disposal."

Barbara Boxer, chair of the Senate environment committee

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SCENE

Gunner and Smith explore dark indie folk sound on debut album

Saskatoon band Gunner and Smith released their debut album, He Once Was a Good Man, this week. CONTRIBUTED/MATTHEW SMITHRE

He Once Was a Good Man. Metro caught up with front man Geoff Smith ahead of the band's shows in Regina and Saskatoon

BACKSTAGE PASS
Jacob Morgan
regina@metronews.ca

Geoff Smith appreciates the bleaker side of beauty.

His Saskatoon band Gunner and Smith released their first full-length album, He Once Was a Good Man, on Feb. 25 and it brings their soulful yet forlorn sound to new heights.

"Something doesn't need to be colourful and happy and bright. It can still be very beautiful and interesting and I think that's something the Prairies have going for them," Smith told Metro.

"I tend to enjoy aspects of the winter." He added that Gunner and Smith were able to open up their music in part due to help from producer and fellow Saskatoon native Ryan Boldt, who plays guitar and sings in the Deep Dark Woods.

"They're one of those bands that a lot of the guys in our band have been listening to for a long time. We really respect what they do," said Smith.

Quoted

"It has a lot of violence and a lot of revenge. Some pretty good characters stuck in some pretty frustrating situations,"

Geoff Smith of Gunner and Smith
On what their new album's title track is about

Boldt also performed on the album and his winding licks add texture to songs such as Drifting and Towns.

Another reason for He Once Was a Good Man's overall consistency is that while the five members work together on individual parts, the songwriting remains largely Smith's vision.

And the stories he draws from are often dark, featuring desperate people thrown into situations beyond their control.

The gritty AMC Western series, Hell on Wheels, provided some inspiration for the title track. "It has a lot of violence and a lot of revenge, some pretty good characters stuck in some pretty frustrating situations," said Smith.

But there's also a personal element: Smith said that a central theme of the record is one of self-reflection about "the unpredictability of where life is going to take you."

Catch the show

Gunner and Smith are now on tour through Western Canada, which will culminate with three Saskatchewan shows including Regina on March 7 at the Artful Dodger and Saskatoon on March 8 at Amigos Cantina.

METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Lawrence looks at year-long vacation

MELINDA TAUB
Metro World News in New York

Have we loved Jennifer Lawrence so hard that we broke her?

Despite — or because of — our affection, the world's most adored actress is planning to take a lengthy hiatus from acting, according to Harvey Weinstein. "She's going to have a long break for a year where she won't do anything. It's been non-stop for her and she deserves a rest," Weinstein, who produced Silver Linings Playbook, told the U.K.'s The Sun.

Why does Jennifer need a rest from being a movie star? Apparently, carrying two major movie franchises while also starring in a steady stream of Oscar bait (not to mention being relentlessly charming in interviews) can wear on a person. "Jennifer is too nice and will do people favours and agrees to do a movie like American Hustle when she could have had a rest," Weinstein said. "She signed on to do Hunger Games when she was young and wouldn't have realized how much it would dominate her life. But she's a professional and always will be."

Well, OK. I guess she can take a break, as long as she comes back — and assigns a substitute to make fun of Sarah Jessica Parker's hats in her stead.

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1. CRAZY TOWN Robyn Doolittle
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Weeks on List: 4

2. CONCEALED IN DEATH J.D. Robb
In a long-empty New York building, Lieutenant Eve Dallas's husband swings a sledgehammer into a wall. When the dust clears, there are two skeletons wrapped in plastic behind it. The incomparable J. D. Robb returns with the latest thriller in the #1 New York Times bestselling Eve Dallas series.
Weeks on List: 2

This Week		Weeks on List
3.	THE INVENTION OF WINGS Sue Monk Kidd	8
4.	DEADLINE Sandra Brown	5
5.	THE DEMONOLOGIST Andrew Pyper	7
6.	LIFE AFTER LIFE Kate Atkinson	8
7.	MY JOURNEY Olivia Chow	6
8.	PRIVATE L.A. James Patterson	3
9.	THE DEAD IN THEIR VAULTED ARCHES Alan Bradley	7
10.	THE TRIPLE PACKAGE Amy Chua	4
★ 11.	THE MUSEUM OF EXTRAORDINARY THINGS Alice Hoffman	1
12.	THE AWESOME GUIDE TO LIFE Jason Ellis	2
13.	CONFESSIONS OF A WILD CHILD Jackie Collins	4
14.	ALL JOY AND NO FUN Jennifer Senior	5
15.	THE MOMSHIFT Reva Seth	3
16.	THE POUND A DAY DIET Rocco Dispirito	8
17.	THE START HERE DIET Tosca Reno	8
★ 18.	THE FUTURE OF THE MIND Michio Kaku	1
★ 19.	THE CHASE Janet Evanovich	1
★ 20.	THE UNDEAD POOL Kim Harrison	1

Combined Fiction and Non-Fiction Bestsellers for the week, ending March 3rd
★New this week

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Kloss is now in session: We want those moves like Karlie

She walks the walk...
And talks runway season, that trademark stride and her inner hopeless romantic

RICHARD PECKETT
Metro World News

Karlie Kloss rapidly became a runway mainstay after being discovered in 2005 at age 13. HANDOUT

Karlie Kloss is one of those rarefied models that women obsess over and men lust after. Now her stock is so high rumour has it the American-born model can only be booked for shows through special arrangement.

You've got the most confident walk in the business. Do you find being on the runway empowering?

I do. I really enjoy being on the runway. It's a very different part of my job compared to photo shoots. It's a performance similar to the ballet performances that I remember from growing up, so I enjoy runway shows because of that.

How did ballet prepare you for the modeling industry?

Ballet was the best training I could have had for a modeling career. It teaches movement, gracefulness and how to express emotion. Telling a story through movement is very important in a modeling career.

Valentine's Day has recently come and gone. Did you buy into it or are you a cynic?

Well I do like Valentine's Day. I like any excuse to show some warmth and love. I think that goes for not just your boyfriend or girlfriend but it's also an excuse to write a love note to your friends, your mom, anyone.

Are you a romantic?

I am. I am a romantic. Yeah, it's also a good holiday for good chocolate.

What's the cheesiest chat-up line you've received?

Hmm, cheesiest chat-up line: "Did it hurt? Did it hurt, angel, when you fell from heaven?" It's an automatic game over.

You're photographed in lingerie a great deal — a look that men's magazines like to perpetuate as real-life. Is this the case?

No, I'm into sweatpants and my boyfriend's T-shirt. I like to be totally boring and watch [American] football, there's no fancy lingerie. But on a special occasion it's always fun to get dressed up and that's why there's some good stuff here at Victoria's Secret.

Good plug.

Karlie's career is on pointe

"Ballet was the best training I could have had for a modeling career."
Karlie Kloss

Canadian street style

Spotted in: Toronto

Name: Kara Lane

Age: 23

Occupation: Front woman of angsty pop band

What she's wearing
Doc Martens, camo pants from Value Village, Cowichan sweater stolen from my friend's boyfriend and a head chain from Emidesh.

Her inspiration
Xena, the warrior princess.

THE KIT IS A MULTI-PLATFORM BEAUTY AND FASHION BRAND WHICH INCLUDES AN INTERACTIVE MAGAZINE AND DYNAMIC APP, A WEBSITE, KIT CHAT – AN E-NEWSLETTER PROGRAM – AND A WEEKLY NEWSPAPER SECTION TOO!

Trends Report

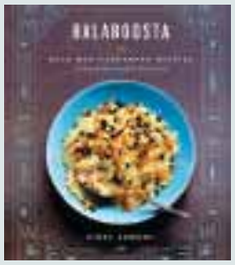
Retro fashion and beauty is seeing a revival this spring, inspiring the latest looks on both fashion runways and red carpets. Go online to Trends Report to see how you can get the look that singer Taylor Swift has mastered.

• **Online.** Follow Irene on Twitter at @MetroIreneK or Instagram: kuanirene; metronews.ca/voices/trends-report

Taylor Swift images from Getty Images

Cookbook of the Week

A mixture of cultures and tastes



As a mother, wife and chef who runs three busy New York City restaurants, Einat Admony knows about being a New Age "balaboosta" (Yiddish for "perfect housewife"). It makes sense then that her cookbook shares the same name.

Balaboosta offers 140 recipes that blend Admony's mixed Israeli heritage (Yemenite, Persian) with the Mediterranean palate she developed working in New York City. Among the dishes in the book are: Spicy Chicken Tagine, Fenugreek Fried Bread, Yemenite Oxtail Soup and more. METRO

Flavoured from the inside out

"This is the classic Mediterranean preparation for fish, without all the fancy filleting, searing, steaming, or curing," writes Einat Admony in her book Balaboosta: Bold Mediterranean Recipes to Feed the People You Love. "The key is to layer the ingredients inside the fish, instead of on top, so that the flavour permeates every last ounce of the meat."

Ingredients

- Four 1 1/4-lb whole branzino, gutted and cleaned
- 4 fresh thyme sprigs
- 4 fresh rosemary sprigs
- 4 garlic cloves
- 1 lemon, sliced into 8 rounds
- Olive oil

Yogurt Dill Sauce

- 3/4 cup non-fat yogurt
- 1 garlic clove, coarsely chopped
- 2 tbsp fresh lemon juice
- 1/2 tsp kosher salt
- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 1 tbsp finely chopped fresh dill

1. Preheat the oven to 350 F.

2. Pat the skin dry on the branzino with a few paper towels. Stuff the cavity of each fish with one sprig each of thyme and rosemary, one garlic clove, and two slices of lemon. Place the fish on a baking sheet lined with parchment paper and drizzle with olive oil.

3. Roast in the oven until cooked all the way through, about 30 minutes.

4. Meanwhile, make the yogurt dill sauce: Combine the yogurt, garlic, lemon juice, and salt in a blender. Puree until smooth, then very slowly add the olive oil in a thin stream. Scrape the yogurt mixture into a bowl and stir in the chopped dill. The sauce can be made ahead of time and kept in an airtight container in the refrigerator until ready to use.

5. Serve each fish with the yogurt dill sauce. EXCERPTED FROM BALABOOSTA BY EINAT ADMONY (ARTISAN BOOKS). COPYRIGHT (C) 2013.

This recipe serves four. QUENTIN BACON

Nursery, I got hue, babe

Crib notes. Looking for non-traditional colours for your newborn's room? We've got you covered

DESIGN CENTRE
Karl Lohnes
home@metronews.ca

I am expecting a baby and don't ascribe to the traditional colours for decorating a baby's room. I also don't know the sex of my unborn. What are neutral-gendered, on-trend colours for painting and decorating? — Nathalie Hicks, Toronto

More parents are opting for non-traditional baby rooms and decorating the space to please themselves as they spend time with their newborn. Once a child develops a preference for styles and colours, usually by age three, it's a good time to re-decorate to suit their personalities. Happily, many retailers carry colourful nursery decor that falls outside traditional schemes.

Here are a few designer tips to get you started:

1. Match any wood tones of baby furniture to other wood tones you might already have throughout your home, such as dark espresso or bleached oak.

2. Consider using a grown-up area rug with fabulous colours and patterns instead of the predictable nursery story-printed rugs.

3. Never be afraid of using deep colours for a newborn's room. It's a space where you are training them to sleep, so the less stimulation the better.

Mix whimsy and colour for those early years. Canadian designed Duc Duc Crib offers a toddler bed conversion kit and a variety of fun words to apply. $1,634, modernkaribou.ca

A quirky orange kangaroo plush cushion becomes an instant best friend for baby. Its pocket makes a great spot for an extra soother. Machine washable. $10, simons.ca

Hazy Lilac 2116-40 paint creates a cozy room to complement dark or light wood tones and trendy shades of grey and orange. benjaminmoore.ca

Keep storage long and low so toys can be displayed at a comfy height, leaving room for shelves and hooks above. Bjursta Sideboard, $300, ikea.ca

A recycled rug is on trend and a perfect choice for a child's room. Ottoman Yama Patchwork 6x8, $475, ecarpetgallery.

Sidney Crosby celebrates with teammates Chris Kunitz, Duncan Keith, Patrice Bergeron and Shea Weber after scoring a second-period goal against Sweden during the gold-medal game at the Sochi Winter Olympics on Sunday. STREETER LECKA/GETTY IMAGES

Returning champs eager to get to work

NHL. Penguins stars Crosby, Regina's Kunitz have little time to bask in success with rough schedule ahead

Sidney Crosby's second Olympic experience wasn't as dramatic as his first, but it was just as rewarding.

Crosby returned from Sochi with another Olympic gold medal, this one as the captain of the Canadian team. Leading a national squad certainly brings a different sense of responsibility, but the same expectation.

"I think everybody feels a sense of pride, but also a sense of relief knowing you were able to do what everybody expected," Crosby said Wednesday. "It's not easy to win, but to be able to go in there with the goal of winning and achieve it is a great feeling."

Now, Crosby and fellow Canadian gold medallist and Regina native Chris Kunitz are ready for a return to normalcy in the NHL, joining head coach Dan Bylsma and five Olympic teammates, including Russia's Evgeni Malkin, as the first-place Penguins prepare for a stretch that features 24 games in 46 days.

"It's good to get into a routine again," Crosby said. "Managing rest is something we definitely have to keep in mind."

Canada steamrolled through Sochi, allowing three goals in six games for its third gold medal in the last four Olympics and record ninth overall.

"Everybody talks about our defence, but I think we were able to control the puck a lot in the offensive zone and when you do that, teams don't get a lot of time or energy to come against you," Crosby said.

The Canadians, who became the first team to go unbeaten through the Olympic tournament in 30 years, never trailed in a dominating effort that culminated in back-to-back shutouts of the United States and Sweden in the semifinals and gold-medal game.

"The last three games, especially, we were at our best, but I think we got better as it went on," Crosby said. "The scores were close, but we felt like we controlled the last three games and played the way we wanted to."

Once again, Crosby's shining moment came in the gold-medal game, this time during the second period against Sweden when he deked goaltender Henrik Lundqvist before depositing a backhander across the line.

"We hadn't had a two-goal lead that often up to that point and with the way we had been playing to get a two-goal lead was nice," Crosby said. "I think that was going through my mind more than the fact that I hadn't scored yet."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Russian regret

It was a different experience for Malkin, who came up empty at the Olympics after the host Russians were eliminated on their home soil in the quarter-final round by Finland.

- "I remember in Vancouver we lost and now it's worse," Malkin said. "Of course it's pressure, we played at home. I know everyone played hard ... we played together."

NHL

Price in pain after return from Sochi

Montreal Canadiens star goaltender Carey Price left the team's morning skate Wednesday with what the club is calling a lower-body injury.

Coach Michel Therrien said Price aggravated the injury while representing Canada at the Sochi Olympics.

"He will not play the next two games and he's day-to-day," Therrien said.

The Canadiens lost 2-1 to the Detroit Red Wings Wednesday night in Montreal.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

NHL

Sabres tie, win vs. B's in minutes

Matt D'Agostini outraced Zdeno Chara to a loose puck and scored 22 seconds into overtime, lifting the Buffalo Sabres to a 5-4 win over the Boston Bruins on Wednesday night.

Matt Moulson forced overtime by scoring with 53 seconds left in regulation in a game the Sabres won after squandering a 3-1 second-period lead. Brian Flynn had a goal and assist, while Tyler Myers and Zemgus Girgensons also scored for Buffalo.

Coming off a 3-2 win over Carolina on Tuesday, the Sabres (17-34-8) won consecutive games for only the third time this season, and first since Dec. 17-19.

Chara, Milan Lucic, Brad Marchand and Chris Kelly scored for the Atlantic Division-leading Bruins (37-16-5).

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Matt D'Agostini (27) celebrates scoring the game-winning goal. RICK STEWART/GETTY IMAGES

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Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
It won't be long before your mind is back in the groove. You will have a lot to say for yourself today but be very careful that you don't give away secrets to people who may be your rivals.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
According to the planets, you could make serious money but you need to get serious about your ambitions. Most of all, you need to commit yourself to an objective that may take years to reach. Are you ready?

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
You will be challenged over the next few days, but you will rise to the challenge and come out unscathed. Remember: rivals are more scared of you than you need be of them.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
You will need to close your ears to criticism today. It does not matter how good a job you do, someone, somewhere, will pick holes in your methods or techniques. Ignore them and carry on as before.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
Be careful what you ask for over the next two or three days because you are likely to get it. Why should that be a problem? Because the responsibilities that go with it could take away a lot of the fun.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
You will be more emotional than usual today. But that could actually work in your favour, especially if you have not been too open about your feelings of late. Every now and then it's good to let it all out.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Do something unexpected. The planets indicate that no matter how far you push the limits, at home or at work, others will forgive you. But that's only today. Tomorrow they won't be so generous.

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Keep your eye on the ball and keep your mind on what it is you are hoping to accomplish. If you can do that then you will succeed. The approaching new moon will give you added drive and dynamism.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You don't have to rely on other people. You have high hopes for the future and will make quicker progress if don't have to worry about dragging others along behind you.

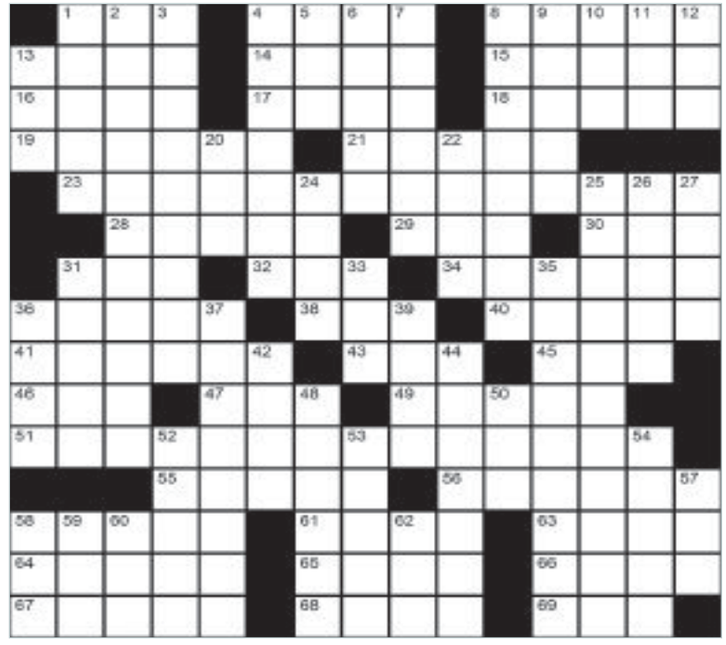
♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
For the past two or three weeks you have found it hard to get your thoughts together, which means progress has been slow. Now, your mind will click into gear and you will soon be sailing along.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
You don't take risks often but when you do, you go all the way. With that in mind, you are advised to wait until the weekend to follow up on what you are planning. If you start too early you could lose it all.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
Be assertive and let partners and colleagues know that you intend to put your needs first. This is your time of year and you have every right and every reason to be a little bit selfish.

SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canada Across and Down



See today's answers at metronews.ca/answers.

BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN

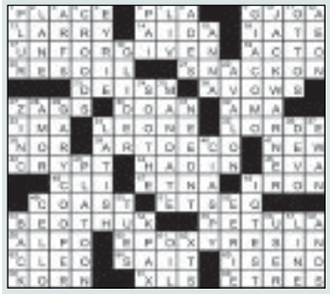
Across

1. Possibilities
4. Frost
8. Ancient water nymph
13. Take _ __ (Try the drink)
14. Vogue rival
15. __ boots
16. Saintly symbol
17. Marsh plant
18. Solemn bell sound
19. "You are not!" retort: 3 wds.
21. Farewell, in France
23. Step dancers perform to their music: 2 wds.
28. '70s music
29. Classic game
30. Ms. Long
31. Like
32. Exhaust
34. Fort __ (Where the American Civil War started in 1861)
36. Roman Empire invaders
38. Beige
40. Sans stopping...: 2 wds.
41. Singer Bonnie's surnamesakes
43. Drivers' org.
45. Actor Mr. Knight's
46. Admiral's org. in The States
47. Juice: French
49. 1985 Power Station hit: "Some Like __ __"
51. "The best man in Ottawa...": Lumberjack in the Stompin' Tom Connors song: 3 wds.
55. Flower sort
56. More sore
58. 1998 Edwin McCain song: 2 wds.
61. In __ of flowers
63. Alfonso XIII's queen's namesakes
64. Sitting spot
65. High
66. Prefix with 'dynamic'
67. "All in the Family" role
68. Opportunity
69. Juiceless

Down

1. Oscar-winning songwriter Mr. Hayes
2. Oscars category: 2 wds.
3. It will shine on Ellen DeGeneres as this year's Oscars host
4. Brave acts
5. Corrida call
6. Shake like _ __
7. Social news website
8. Leslie Nielsen movie franchise: 2 wds.
9. Cancel
10. White House nickname
11. __ clear
12. Rocker Mr. Shannon
13. Sushi tuna
20. Periods beyond regular hrs.
22. Some apples
24. Outdoors garment
25. "The __": Piano tune in "The Sting" (1973)
26. 'Nothings' in Nice
27. Chalcedony variety
31. "__ __ _ say, not..."
33. BC's ocean
35. "Ace of Spades" British metal band
36. Food
37. Gospels guy, __. __
39. Newbie
42. Tallow source
44. In the wrong: 2 wds.
48. Silver fishies
50. "__ Ramsey" ('70s TV Western)
52. Frilly neckwear piece like Austin Powers wears
53. "Easy Livin'" by __ Heep
54. Beat
57. Record label The Bee Gees were on
58. 'Expert' suffix
59. 19 TV __. (Production co. for "American Idol")
60. Law: French
62. "Turn to Stone" gr.

Yesterday's Crossword



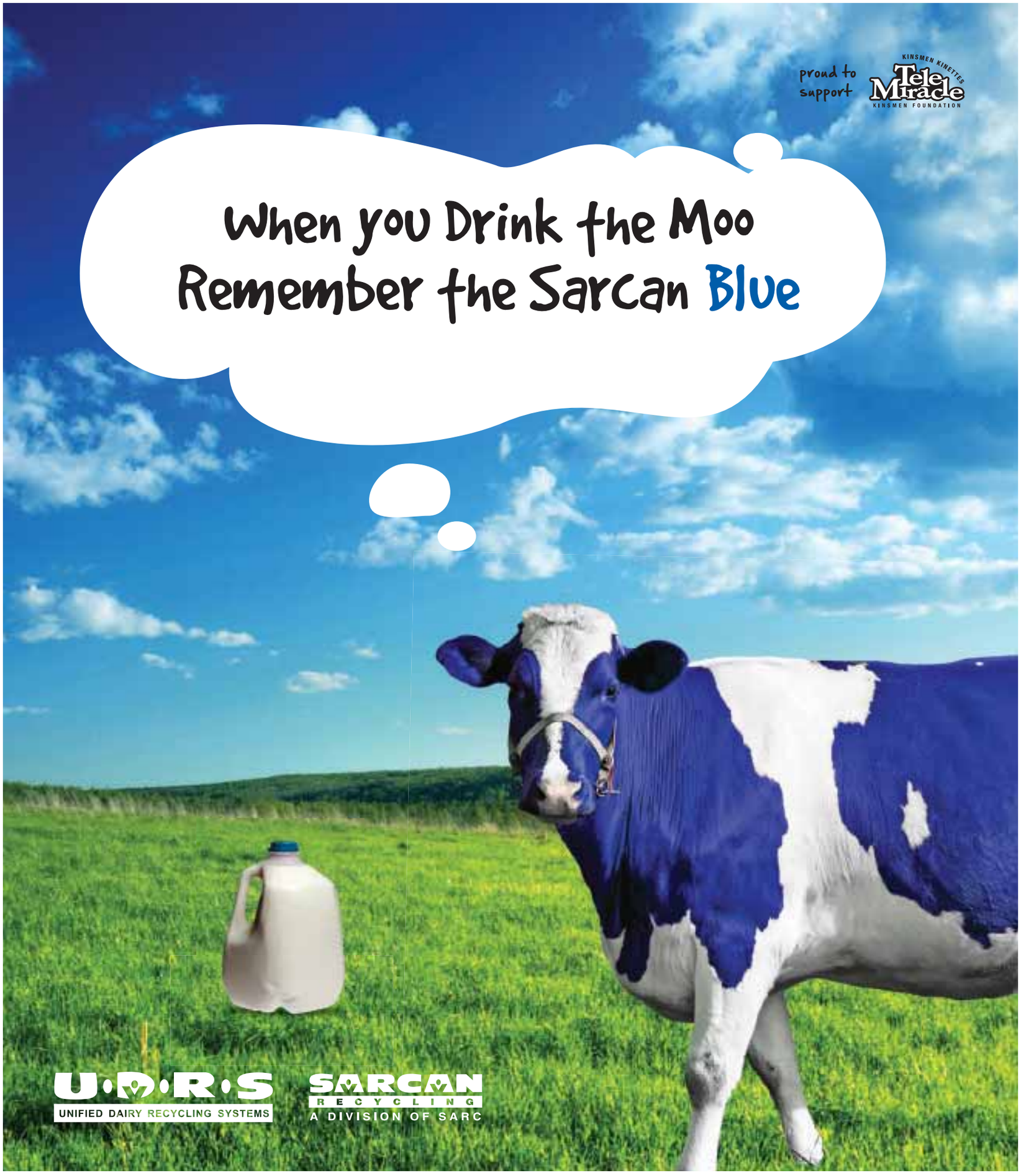
Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

		7	2		9	3		
	2		3		5		4	
9								8
		8	1	2	6	5		
		9	8	5	7	2		
7								2
	3		6		1		5	
		1	4		2	6		

Yesterday's Sudoku

7	2	9	1	3	5	6	8	4
1	3	5	8	4	6	2	9	7
4	8	6	2	9	7	3	5	1
8	4	7	3	5	2	1	6	9
3	5	1	9	6	8	7	4	2
6	9	2	4	7	1	8	3	5
9	1	3	7	8	4	5	2	6
2	6	8	5	1	9	4	7	3
5	7	4	6	2	3	9	1	8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